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buildings or places fit for the Society's use, — holding consultations with the existing Committee, — and make report to the Society of the result of their examinations.

On the subject of the documents, &c., concerning Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard in the New-York Archives, referred to in the letters of Dr. Hough, communicated at the last June meeting, Mr. SPARKS reported that he had had an interview with Dr. Hough; that they are original papers, in his opinion worth possessing; and that copies can be obtained, if wished. He further reported that Dr. Hough had been in correspondence with the Secretary of this Commonwealth upon the subject. Thereupon voted to refer the whole matter to the Standing Committee.

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#### NOVEMBER MEETING.

The Society held their stated monthly meeting on Nov. 8, at noon, at their rooms in Tremont Street, Boston; the President, Hon. ROBERT C. WINTHROP, in the chair.

The President read a letter from the Recording Secretary, who stated that his engagements at court would make it inconvenient for him to attend the meeting; whereupon Rev. Chandler Robbins was appointed Secretary *pro tem*.

The Librarian announced donations from Mr. John F. Eliot, the Regents of the University of New York, and from Mr. Sibley of this Society.

The Corresponding Secretary read a letter from the Bishop of Oxford, dated "Wilton House, Oct. 10, 1855," thanking the Society for their consideration in electing him an Honorary Member, and signifying his acceptance.

He also presented a communication from Dr. Franklin B. Hough, in relation to documents concerning Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard found among the archives in the Secretary's office of the State of New York, as represented at our last June meeting; with the additional information of the discovery of papers containing new and interesting facts relating to King Philip's war, and giving a list of all the papers mentioned in both communications, with dates.

Voted to refer these several communications to the Standing Committee.

The President stated that he had received a letter from Mr. Sparks, relating to the subject of Dr. Hough's communication. Voted to refer the same to the Standing Committee.

REV. JOHN STETSON BARRY, of Roxbury, and JOHN AMORY LOWELL, Esq., of Boston, were elected Resident Members.

The President, from the Committee of Ten appointed at the last meeting with reference to enlarged accommodations for the Society, reported that they had visited and examined the chapel in Freeman Place, and had consulted with the Committee of Three to whom the subject had been previously referred, but are not prepared to recommend an abandonment of the present premises. Meanwhile, the Committee have the pleasure

of submitting to the Society a trust-instrument, by which the sum of two thousand dollars is placed at the disposal of the Society, to aid in securing the whole of the estate of which they are now owners in part, or for obtaining any other suitable site for our library halls.

This instrument is in the words and figures following: —

*Historical Trust Fund.*

Know all men by these presents, that I, David Sears, of Boston, in the County of Suffolk and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Esquire, from my desire to increase the usefulness of the Historical Society of Massachusetts, and in consideration of five dollars paid by them to me, — and more especially in consideration of their assenting to and agreeing, and undertaking to perform, the several conditions, and execute the several trusts, hereinafter mentioned and recited, — do hereby give and pay over to said Historical Society the sum of two thousand dollars, the receipt of which they do hereby acknowledge; and do make, constitute, and appoint said Society, and their successors, my Trustees, in the establishment and management of a trust-fund, for the objects and upon the conditions hereinafter written. That is to say, to have and to hold the same to the said Massachusetts Historical Society and their successors, in trust, for the following uses and purposes: In the first place, the said Trustees will immediately invest said two thousand dollars in some funded or public stock, or in mortgage of productive real estate, or in notes with undoubted collateral security, or in real estate, or in such other manner as shall guarantee said Trustees from loss; and the same, with its accumulations and income, again so invest, and keep invested, to establish and constitute a per-

manent fund, under the name and style of the “Massachusetts Historical Trust Fund.”

And the annual income of said fund is to be added to the principal annually, between the months of July and January, to form a new capital of said fund; and, when invested, is not afterwards to be used or expended, except as hereinafter provided: it being understood, that, in any year before said annual income is so invested, said Historical Society and its successors may, under a recorded vote, draw forth and receive said past year's income, to be expended in such objects as to them may be desirable. And when hereafter the accumulations of said fund — by its investments of income; by additions made to it; by gifts, bequests, or otherwise — shall amount to a sufficient sum, in aid of other means, to purchase or secure a suitable site for the library and halls of said Historical Society, or to enable said Society to appropriate and improve the whole of their present premises, — then, and in either of the cases, the said Trustees may, under a recorded vote of authority of the Society, draw out and receive the whole, or any part, of said accumulations of said fund, to be expended by them in the above-named purposes. And also, further, whenever the accumulations of the trust shall amount to a sufficient sum, in aid of other means, to purchase or provide for desirable objects, appurtenant to the library or halls of the Society; either for embellishments or alterations, or for paintings, including portraits of distinguished citizens and deceased members; or for works of art, &c., — then, and in either of these cases, the said Trustees may, under a recorded vote of authority of the Society, draw out and receive the whole, or any part, of said accumulations of said fund, to be expended by them in either or any of the above-named purposes. Provided always, that in no case whatever shall the original trust-sum be encroached upon or diminished.

In testimony whereof, I, the said David Sears, have here-

unto set my hand and seal, this fifteenth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five.

DAVID SEARS. [Seal.]

Signed, sealed, and delivered in presence of

JAMES S. AMORY.

L. B. BAILEY.

BOSTON, ss., Oct. 16, 1855. — Then personally appeared the above-named David Sears, and acknowledged the foregoing instrument, by him signed, to be his free act and deed; and requested that the same, as such, might be recorded.

Before me, JAMES S. AMORY, Justice of the Peace.

The foregoing deed of trust having been read and considered, on motion of the Standing Committee, offered by Mr. DEANE, —

*Resolved*, That the Society entertain a deep sense of the thoughtful liberality of the Hon. David Sears, in laying this foundation of a trust-fund for the purposes named in the instrument just read; and that they gratefully accept the timely donation, and the conditions of the trust.

On motion of Mr. TICKNOR, — *Voted*, That the Librarian be instructed to report in writing, at each monthly meeting, the name of every book that has been out of the library for a longer term than is permitted by the By-laws.

Mr. APPLETON, from the Committee on the subject of the enlarged accommodations for the Society, reported verbally that they had held a conference with the trustees of the Savings Bank, and that they had named to

them such terms of purchase as they hoped would be satisfactory. He further reported, that the Committee could furnish for the Society the sum of six thousand dollars, inclusive of Mr. Sears's donation, towards the desired fund of ten thousand dollars.

On motion of Mr. DEANE, — *Voted*, That the Committee of Three be fully empowered to purchase so much of the estate now occupied by the Society as belongs to the Provident Institution for Savings, at such price as to them shall seem warranted by the financial condition of the Society.

On motion of Dr. SHURTLEFF, — *Voted*, That the Committee of Ten be authorized and instructed to obtain such additions to the trust-fund now established as may be in their power, by appealing to the liberality of those interested in the Society, whether as members or friends.

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#### DECEMBER MEETING.

The Society held their stated monthly meeting on Thursday, Dec. 13, at noon, at their rooms in Tremont Street, Boston; the President, Hon. ROBERT C. WINTHROP, in the chair.

The Librarian announced donations from the Royal Society of Northern Antiquaries, through the Smithsonian Institution; the Library Committee of the London Traders' Tokens; the Wisconsin Historical Society; Hon. William Appleton; Dr. Samuel A. Greene; Lieut. J. M. Gillis, U.S.N.; Yale College; the Selectmen of